

Lamprey Water Management Planning Area Committee Meeting
June 13, 2005
Durham Police Department- Community Room
9:30 am - 11:30 am

Members Present:

Victoria Del Greco
Jamie Fosburgh
James Duprie
Therese Thompson
Linda Fernald
Ann Caron
Glenn Caron
Judith Spang
John Barnes
Frank Reinhold
Jay Odell
Robert Levesque
Mike Lynch

Members Absent:

Frank Bishop
Wesley East
Thomas Fargo
Brian Giles
Michael King
Kevin Webb

Others Present:

Gilbert Lang	Newmarket
Tim Stone	Stone Hill Environmental
Coleen Fuerst-Dreher	Technical Review Committee
Carl Paulsen	NH Rivers Council

Contractors:

Tom Ballestero	UNH
Don Kretchmer	Normandeau Associates
Drew Trested	Normandeau Associates

DES Staff – Watershed Management Bureau:

Wayne Ives, Instream Flow Specialist
Mary Power, Executive Secretary

Wayne Ives of DES opened the meeting at 9:30 am

Ives stated that the nomination of the committee members has been approved by the Governor and Executive Council and, as such, this is the first official meeting of this committee. He explained that members will be asked to sign some paperwork indicating that they agree to participate. That paperwork will then be notarized. He added that members will be asked to submit financial reports on

their income and relationships with various groups, according to the law. He is not sure if that will be enforced. He then asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Update on Lamprey Pilot – Wayne Ives began by saying the Governor and Council request for the contract approval has been returned to him for correction of a technical glitch. This means it will be delayed by two weeks bringing it to the end of the month. He hopes to be in the field by late June.

The Instream Flow process includes coordinating with the Technical Review Committee which reviews technical issues related to computer processes and field work, etc. and this committee which brings local knowledge and focused interests to bear on the process. It is both a technical process and to some degree a political process incorporating local watershed interests. The entire state of New Hampshire has an interest in this watershed but this committee has more local knowledge and focused interests, so the committee must represent the state's interests as representatives of business owners, conservationists, recreational users, or dam owners, etc.

Committee member Jamie Fosburgh asked if Mr. Ives would speak about the selection process for the contractors. Ives said the selection committee, made up of two DES staff people, two members of this committee, and two from the Technical Review committee. They received seven qualifications packages and chose four to submit proposals. The proposals are on the website along with the RFP. Ives also has copies at his office for anyone to review or have copies made. Three of the final four applicants were interviewed on March 28, 2005. One dropped out of the process. The UNH-Normandeau-U-Mass team is the one that was selected. Discussion followed.

Nominations and Election of Chair and Vice Chair and Discussion of Duties

Ives stated that leadership for this committee needs to be set up and he would like to receive nominations and elect a chairperson and a vice chairperson today, but because there are several members missing it might make sense to wait until the next meeting.

Ives went into detail about the duties of the elected leadership and the committee. The chairperson will meet with Ives to coordinate meeting dates and locations, decide when information from the consultant needs to be reviewed and to coordinate general concerns. The chairperson also runs the meetings and adheres to the agenda. The vice-chair has the responsibility of keeping track of things and to sit in as chair when chairman cannot attend a meeting. Ives said the person should act independently and be proactive rather than solely responding to him. Ives said he will put the agenda together for the meetings. The committee can decide on frequency of meetings.

The committee, early on, will discuss the protected entities; developing the list of we are trying to protect on the river. This committee will be heavily involved because of your local knowledge and local concerns. The workload will be strong in the beginning, moderate in the middle and then as the Water Management Plan begins you will be more involved again giving feedback to the proposed plans. It will be important for this committee to follow along with the technical reviews so you will know how things were decided upon. You will always be notified of the Technical Review committee meetings and are welcome to attend.

Ives asked members for nominations for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. They are as follows: James Duprie, Brian Giles, Tom Fargo, Judith Spang and Frank Reinhold, Jr. It was decided the nominations would be sent out via email and voted upon. Ives added that he would take additional nominations via email over the next couple of weeks. James Duprie offered to help in the interim.

Presentation: Lamprey IPUOCR entities – Wayne Ives

Ives presented watershed maps showing the Designated River. He said they are interested in the protected entities along the river, but the management plans affecting the area above the designated river should not cause problems there. He asked the members to identify protected entities and note them on the maps. He went over the entities that are identified in statute 483: 9-c. He went through the explanation of IPUOCR and said the idea is to inventory the protected entities and that inventory will define what we are creating protected flows for.

Judith Spang ask about the definition that swimming can only be designated beaches. Ives said that was decided by the Water Management Bureau. Designated beaches are at swimming areas that some entity such as a town or group has intended as a swimming area. Spang asked if it can be changed. Ives said there are processes within each pilot to make changes internally and an umbrella review following the pilot program that can address requested changes. He encouraged the members to bring in anything they think is significant to the community or any changes they think will be necessary.

The Lamprey-specific information that has been developed is available on the DES website in a file transfer protocol because of the size. (56 pages) It includes protected entities such as fisheries, swimming areas and others. He gave it to the contractors before the proposal stage so they would have a basis for their proposals. They will use it as a starting point for their in-stream surveys after it is augmented by committee postings on the maps or via email. James Duprie asked if there will be GIS maps and if they will be easily accessible. The UNH website and the Lamprey's own website will have the GIS maps.

The following is a summary of the presentation Ives gave for the flow dependant entities that were found on the Souhegan. They are: navigation, recreation, fisheries, open space, natural resources, vegetation, cultural resources, scientific resources, (studies going on in the river that might require natural flows) protection of water quality and public health. Discussion followed regarding non-point source pollution such as agricultural runoff and Ives suggested that this study may identify those types of problems and they will be directed to the DES staff people who deal with those specific problem areas. Ives continued with the listing: aesthetic beauty, scenic resources. Spang asked how water needs will be decided. Ives said that is what the committee and the public hearing process is designed to do. Discussion followed.

Ives asked the committee to get the maps marked up and back to him within two to four weeks and he will pass them onto Normandeau so they can use them in their field work. He will start with the information he already has and combine it with what is submitted by the committee on the maps and through emails and add the on-stream survey by Normandeau for as complete a coverage as possible. The maps will be placed at Durham town hall, Raymond town hall and Lee town hall.

A question was asked about the lower fresh-water ox-bow section which has been designated as being outside the reach. That is one of the areas that has high concentrations of osprey, turtles and other species that might be of concern. Ives said he will address it with Normandeau and look into a clarification of the legislative intent. He said if it is different than what the map states it needs to be corrected. He also said the committee members should feel free to interview others in their communities to get any local knowledge that is available. It was suggested that members of each town's government be contacted for local information contacts. Discussion followed.

Jay Odell brought up the on-going Regional Outfall study and suggested it be kept in mind and to think about the two processes should connect. Ives said some regional processes that make sense in the engineering phase don't always have favorable results for the environment but when the protected flows go into place they then become a rule and will be protected.

Other Business: Ives asked members if there is a preference for day of week and time of day for meetings. Most said Monday morning is a good time to meet. Discussion followed regarding the location. Durham and Raymond were the final choices. It is open to further discussion.

There is no specific date for the next meeting.

Adjourned 11:15 AM